

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 140. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, September 24, 1862.

ORDER respecting Special Provost Marshals, and defining their duties.

First. There shall be a Provost Marshal General of the War Department, whose headquarters will be at Washington, and who will have the immediate supervision, control, and management of the corps.

Second. There will be appointed in each State one or more Special Provost Marshals, as necessity may require, who will report to, and receive instructions and orders from the Provost Marshal General of the War Department.

Third. It will be the duty of the Special Provost Marshals to arrest all deserters, whether Regulars, Volunteers, or Militia, and send them to the nearest Military Commander, or military post, where they can be cared for and sent to their respective Regiments; to arrest, upon the warrant of the Judge Advocate, all disloyal persons subject to arrest under the orders of the War Department; to inquire into and report treasonable practices, seize stolen or embezzled property of the government, detect spies of the enemy, and perform such other duties as may be enjoined upon them by the War Department; and report all their proceedings promptly to the Provost Marshal General.

Fourth. To enable Special Provost Marshals to discharge their duties efficiently, they are authorized to call on any available military force within their respective districts, or else to employ the assistance of citizens, constables, sheriffs, or police officers, so far as may be necessary, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Provost Marshal General of the War Department, with the approval of the Secretary of War.

Fifth. Necessary expenses incurred in this service will be paid on duplicate bills certified by the Special Provost Marshals stating the time and nature of the service, after examination and approval by the Provost Marshal General.

Sixth. The compensation of Special Provost Marshals will be dollars per month, and actual traveling expenses and postage will be refunded on bills certified under oath and approved by the Provost Marshal General.

Seventh. All appointments in this service will be subject to be revoked at the pleasure of the Secretary of War.

Eighth. All orders heretofore issued by the War Department conferring authority upon other officers to act as Provost Marshals (except those who have received special commissions from the War Department) are hereby revoked.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

L. THOMAS,

Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Assistant Adjutant General.